

Agency: Take time off to recharge in Kansas

From the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

National Tourism Week is May 1-7, and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism urges Kansans to make time for a refreshing travel experience in Kansas. According to the U.S. Travel Association, Americans accrue 429 million days of unused leave annually and forfeit \$52 billion in benefits each year. Forty percent of workers cite having to return to a mountain of work as the reason for not taking time off. Thirty-five percent of workers feel that nobody else can do their job, while 22 percent do not want to be seen as replaceable.

There is an upside to downtime, however. Taking a vacation lowers stress and helps build a healthy mind and body. Time off creates stronger bonds with family and friends, builds a productive workforce and helps cultivate a fulfilled life. Eighty-five percent of workers say time off makes them happier and 90 percent

say time away helps them relax and recharge.

A Kansas vacation helps more than the intrepid travelers. Tourism is big business in Kansas and bolsters the state's economy. Kansas hosted 34.8 million visitors in 2014, and they spent \$6.2 billion in our state. Tourism has an annual economic impact of more than \$9.8 billion and brings in \$570 million in state and local government revenues. Tourism-supported employment represents 4.9 percent of all employment in the state.

So, celebrate your leisure time and boost the economy with some downtime in Kansas. Start your vacation planning with a click-trip through TravelKS.com, the website of the Kansas Division of Tourism. You'll find plenty of ideas for things to do and places to eat, stay and shop. VisitKSOutdoors.com for more information on outdoor activities at Kansas state parks and other rejuvenating fresh-air opportunities.

South Steps Fridays Summer 2016

It's our second season at the Kansas Statehouse. Come enjoy live music and learn about exciting Kansas attractions and organizations during the lunch hour!



Upcoming Dates:
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
May 27
June 10, 24
July 1, 15, 29
August 12

Kansas Department of Administration
www.admin.ks.gov

roK Just for Kids, Inc.
facebook.com/southstepsfridays

KU SCHOOL OF MUSIC
The University of Kansas

South Steps Fridays back in 2016

Building on the success of our inaugural season last summer, the Department of Administration will be bringing back South Steps Fridays this summer.

The events are a great way to enjoy lunch on the grounds of the Statehouse, listen to live music and learn about activities and organizations in Topeka and across Kansas.

The dates for the 2016 season are May 27, June 10, June 24, July 1, July 15, July 29 and August 12. The events get started at 11 a.m. and run until 1 p.m.

As was the case last year, music will be provided through a partnership with Reach Out Kansas Inc., an organization dedicated to bringing music and the arts to all parts of Kansas. The lineup will include the University of Kansas School of Music's Jazz Program.

Groups from state government, as well as Topeka and across Kansas, are invited to participate in the events as a means for telling their story and encouraging residents and visitors to experience what the groups have to offer.

Meet: Elizabeth Jo Boswell



Office of Chief Financial Officer

Position:

Administrative Specialist

Job Duties:

Vendor maintenance
for the SMART program

How long you've been with D of A:

Since January 2014

Favorite part of your job:

It's a family-oriented atmosphere. I can be a full-time mom and a full-time employee at the same time.

Interesting fact about you:

I'm pretty nerdy. My favorite radio station is NPR.

Favorite hobby:

I have a 7-year-old daughter so anything we can do together.

How you would spend an ideal day off:

I would probably avoid housework. Probably volunteering at my daughter's school and spending time with her while she is at school.



A note from the Secretary...

Well, it's finally May and spring is in full force. If the old saying about April showers bringing May flowers holds true, it should be quite a colorful month after the rain we received in the past week.

Now that the days are getting longer and the temperatures are rising, it's time to think about getting outdoors and enjoying time with friends and family. Recently I took my own advice and spent the weekend outdoors with my daughter's Girl Scout troop. Though soggy and a bit chilly, the girls and I had a wonderful time outdoors and learned a lot about what to do next time we go camping.

This week is National Tourism Week, and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism is encouraging Kansans to get out and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature.

Kansas is blessed with some of the best hiking trails, lakes and state parks around. Many of these locations are remote enough to get away from civilization but close enough to enjoy for a weekend or extended trip. Along the way you will find numerous attractions of historical significance, local landmarks, restaurants and niche shops that give Kansas a rich character.

You can start planning a weekend or summer vacation across the state by checking out the Kansas Division of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism website at TravelKS.org. And for even more information about other outdoor activities, such as hunting, fishing and boating, go to KSOutdoors.com.

Meanwhile, the Department of Administration is bringing back two events this summer starting in May aimed at giving our employees a chance to enjoy the outdoors and music right from the Kansas Statehouse.

The second season of South Steps Fridays starts May 27 and runs every two weeks from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Once again the music will be provided through a partnership with Reach Out Kansas Inc., which is dedicated to providing music and cultural opportunities to students and Kansas residents. Back again will be students from the University of Kansas' School of Music to provide jazz during the noon hours.

Several organizations will participate in each event to provide information about local and state attractions and activities. It's a great way to learn what's happening in our hometown or just down the road.

Finally, we will have our annual Department of Administration Employee Picnic on the Statehouse grounds this summer. Hotdogs, hamburgers and sweet treats will be provided as a way to say thank you for all you do for the state. More details about this event will be announced in the coming weeks.

Sarah

Own a piece of history

Online auction of Kansas Statehouse treasures runs through May 9

Hundreds if not thousands of items that once were used in the Kansas Statehouse are being auctioned off to the public in early May.

The items - doors, windows, hardware, cabinets - were all once part of the Statehouse but removed or replaced as part of the renovation project that concluded last year. Items can be viewed at dlwebb.com.

Bidding will be online only and begins at 10 a.m. May 2 and concludes at 10 a.m. on May 9.

The items have been in storage for the past decade for safekeeping. Some select pieces were retained for historical purposes by the Kansas State Historical Society. Remaining pieces are now being made available for purchase through the online

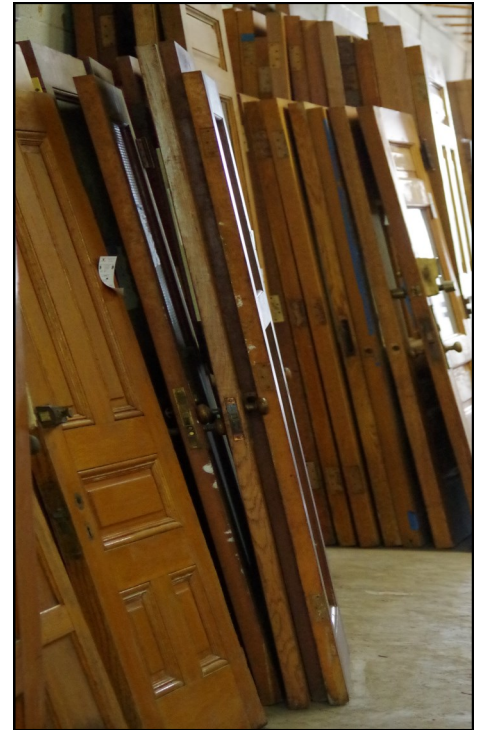
bidding process.

Items include numerous doors, archways, brass hardware, wrought-iron stair railing with brass handrails, library ladders used in the Kansas State Library, wainscoting, Kansas Supreme Court bookcases, door jambs, a curved Senate clerks' desk from E. Horn Manufacturing in Topeka and a copper door that once led to the Statehouse dome.

Auctioneer Dave Webb said many of the

items were installed when the Statehouse was constructed in three phases starting in the 1860s, including some that still have their square nails in place.

"If you would like a piece of history from the State of Kansas Statehouse this is your opportunity," Webb said. "I remember my first visit to the Statehouse while in grade school like thousands of young people. The building and grandeur left a lasting impression on me."



Library @ Work



DROP OFF & PICK UP

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
LANDON ROOM 112**

LIBRARY CARDS

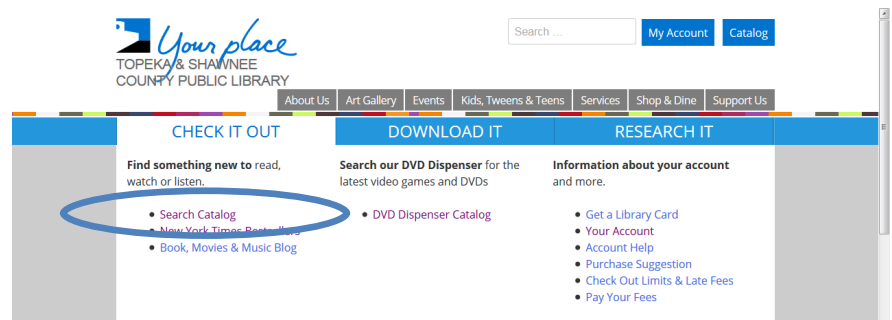
You will need a library card in order to check out items for delivery. You do not have to be a Shawnee County resident to have one. Contact the TSCPL at 785-580-4555 or visit: www.tscpl.org/librarycard

**Questions? Contact DoA
Personnel Services
psweb@da.ks.gov**

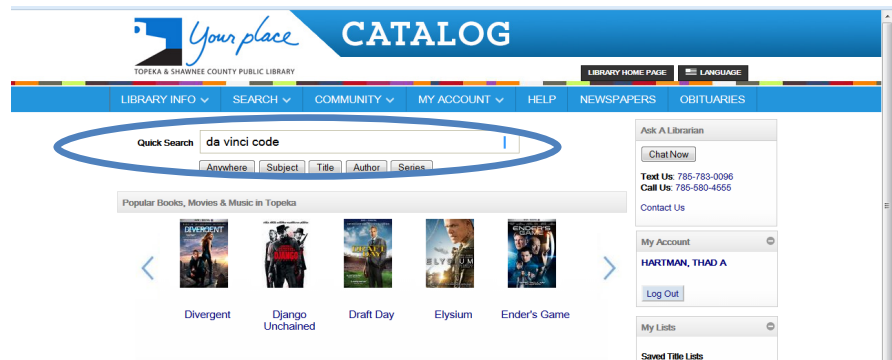
The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library is now offering the Library@Work Program at the Landon State Office Building. You can use Library@Work to borrow materials from the TSCPL with the convenience of free delivery right here at Landon. Browse the catalog and make reservations online. When your order is ready, your items are delivered directly to Landon 1st floor.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Go to www.tscpl.org



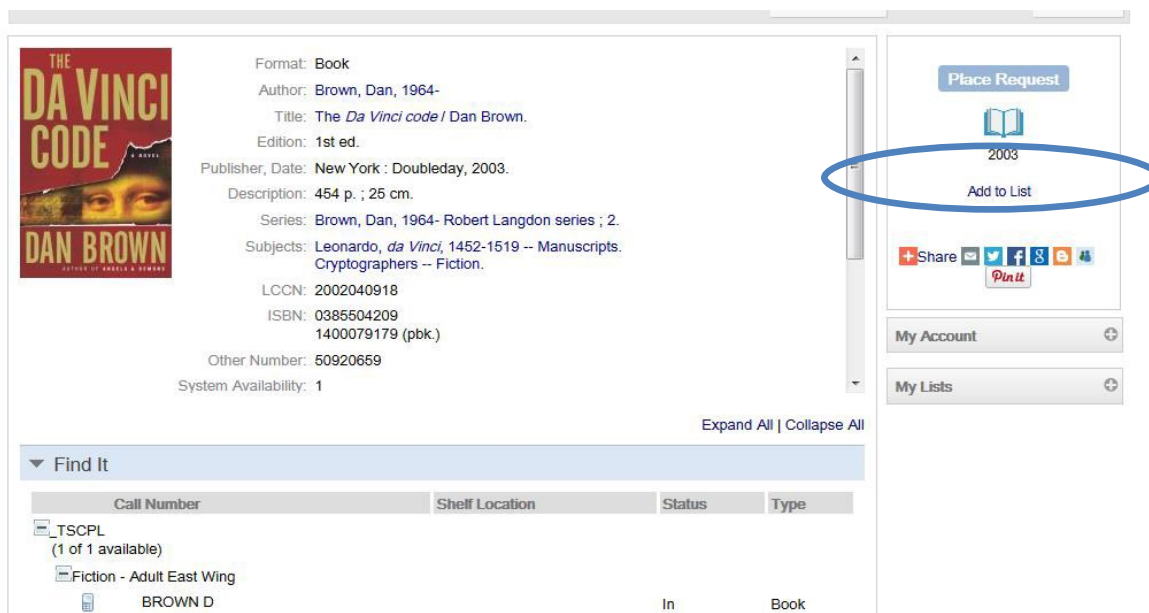
2. Click “Check it Out” and then “Search Catalog”



3. Enter your search terms.
4. Locate the item. Request books, movies, music, audiobooks and more.

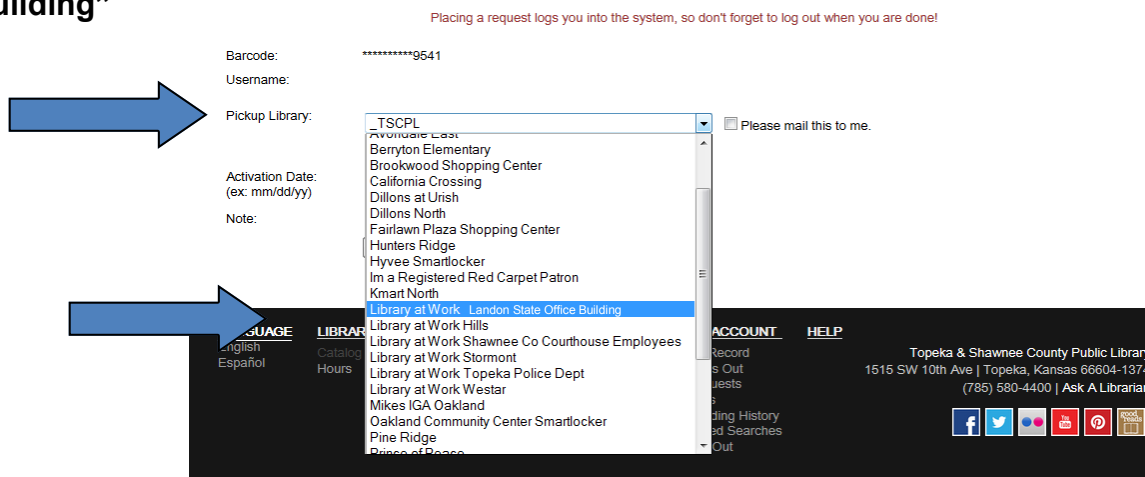
Library @ Work

5. Click “Place Request”



6. If you are not already logged in to the website, you'll need to enter your library card barcode and PIN.

7. In the “Pickup Library” pull-down menu, Choose “Library at Work Landon State Office Building”



8. You will receive an email when your item is available. The item will be delivered directly to the 1st Floor North Lobby of LSOB.

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